

# Training & Education Fund News

SEIU HEALTHCARE 1199NW MULTI-EMPLOYER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FUND

FALL QUARTER, 2017

## Member Spotlight: Nikkea Ferrin



**Nikkea Ferrin, RN at UW Medicine, Northwest Hospital and Medical Center**

**N**ikkea knew from a young age that she wanted to become a nurse. While a teenager, Nikkea would often assist in providing care to her grandmother by administering her insulin and aiding in other areas of her grandmother's healthcare needs. Nikkea believes these early experiences nurtured her inclination and passion towards healthcare and helping others.

After earning her CNA, Nikkea began working as a Unit Secretary at UW Medicine, Northwest Hospital and Medical Center. It was during this time that she decided to go back to school to become a Registered Nurse.

*"It was important for me to see this through, not only for myself, but for someone else considering going to school and being intimidated by the challenges it presents. It's hard, but you can do it, you will do it, and a world of opportunities will be waiting for you at the end."*

Going back to school wasn't easy, but Nikkea strove to establish a routine and manageable work/school/life balance. Nikkea credits having an encouraging cohort of classmates, passionate professors, an inspiring curriculum, engaged management team, and the support from the Training Fund as the many pillars that enabled her success. "I feel incredibly excited and prepared," Nikkea says about coming on as a nurse in Labor and Delivery at UW Medicine, Northwest Hospital and Medical Center. Good luck and congratulations, Nikkea!



## Have a Benefit Question?

Access the Training Fund's website **live chat** feature to get your benefit questions answered fast by one of our staff!

Call **425.255.0315** or visit **[www.healthcareerfund.org](http://www.healthcareerfund.org)**

## Fall Quarter Success Tips



**ENROLLED IN SCHOOL FALL QUARTER?  
HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO HELP YOU BE SUCCESSFUL.**

**Manage your academic schedule.** Look at your course syllabus to check exam/quiz/assignment due dates in advance. If you discover there'll be a week with overlapping assignments or multiple tests, you will be better prepared.

### **Know your school's add/drop dates.**

If you think that you may need to drop a class, try to do so during the refund period, and make certain to let your Career and Education Navigator know so they can help you with any concerns along the way.

**Take advantage of your tutoring benefit!** Setting up a regular tutoring schedule early in the quarter can help to ensure you don't get behind. You qualify for up to four hours a week in fall quarter and that can make a difference! Go to: [www.healthcareerfund.org](http://www.healthcareerfund.org) to learn more.

### **There are many holidays during fall quarter.**

Days off during the instructional calendar shouldn't mean taking days off from studying or homework. Regular attendance and correspondence with your instructors during this busy quarter should help keep you on track with your classes and assignments.

**Use all of your funding before the end of the year!** Remember to submit all of your Training Fund approved education expenses that you have incurred by December 31, 2017! You can also purchase recommended books or software for a class to best utilize all your funds.





# Staff Spotlight

Meet Destiny Williams, Adult Education Lead

**What brought you to the Training Fund, Destiny?** Three and a half years ago, the stars aligned! I had previously worked in health clinics, as a medical case manager, and I was a SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Union Delegate and E-Board member. I came to the Training Fund to contribute to improving the lives of our members through education and career advancement.

**How does your work help to serve, assist, and benefit our members?** Our members manage multiple priorities such as work, school, and family responsibilities; not to mention personal time for life's other necessities. Members

often use the Training Fund Educational Support Services as part of their strategy to be successful. Whether meeting with a chemistry tutor, attending a workshop, or developing English or computer skills, students accelerate their learning, and strengthen their performance, both at school and on the job.

**What would you like members to know about their Training Fund benefits?** Our members qualify for up to four hours a week of in-person tutoring through the Training Fund, even if they aren't going to school! Getting a tutor is easy: simply complete the Tutor Request Form on our website. We have tutoring for nursing, healthcare prerequisites, and all levels of writing! We can also help members develop their basic English and computer skills. The tutoring benefit is here to help our members succeed!

**What do you enjoy about your Training Fund work?** I enjoy being part of the Training Fund team, including 35 contract college tutors, as well as English Language Learner and computer tutors across Puget Sound. It's rewarding to see our hard-working members succeed and further their careers by using the Training Fund. I always find it humbling to hear the success stories of how a tutor, workshop, or English language class has improved the skills, confidence, and lives of our members.

**What is something people might be surprised to learn about you?** I am a fifth generation Washingtonian. I lived in Guatemala and El Salvador for eighteen months after college, so I speak Spanish. I also have a brother who is a doctor in South Seattle.

**What do you spend your time doing, outside of the Training Fund?** I'm the proud dad of a five year old daughter and three year old son. You'll find me exploring local parks, jumping on our trampoline, or just reading and playing with them. Parenting is like school- I still have lots to learn! I'm also a "Full-90" Seattle Sounders fan.

## Training Fund Myth Buster



**MYTH:** If I'm receiving financial aid, I'm not eligible for the Training Fund's Tuition Assistance benefit.

**TRUTH:** Your financial aid award does not prevent you from qualifying for the Training Fund's Tuition Assistance benefit, however, some additional documentation may be necessary to determine the best approach for administering this benefit based on your particular situation. So, apply today and let the Training Fund staff guide you through this process and help you pursue your educational goals!

### SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Multi-Employer Training and Education Fund

Supporting innovative training, education and career development for healthcare workers that maximizes their talents, proactively meets industry needs, and ensures high-quality patient care through a diverse and skilled healthcare workforce.

#### Our Union and Employer Partners



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